



Children & Education Select Committee
31 July 2013

**APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTees TO THE CHILDREN &
EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE**

Purpose of the report:

To agree arrangements for the co-option of people who are not members of the Council to sit on the Children & Education Select Committee.

Introduction:

1. For overview and scrutiny work that deals wholly or partly with education issues, the Local Government Act (2000) places a duty on Local Authorities to involve specific statutory co-opted members. These are:
 - One representative from the Church of England Diocese (if the local authority maintains one or more Church of England schools);
 - One representative from the Roman Catholic Diocese (if the local authority maintains one or more Roman Catholic schools);
 - At least two Parent governor representatives.
2. These statutory co-opted members are full and equal members on the Select Committees to which they are appointed and have voting rights in relation to education issues.
3. Currently both the diocesan representative positions are filled and there are currently two previously appointed parent governors. These individuals were previously members of the now decommissioned Education Select Committee, and it is proposed that their membership be transferred to the Children & Education Select Committee to ensure that Surrey remains compliant with the legislation.

Proposed appointments

4. At present the positions outlined above are filled by the following individuals, and it is recommended that Members agree their co-option onto the Children & Education Select Committee.

4.1 Church of England Representative: Derek Holbird

4.2 Roman Catholic Representative: Mary Reynolds

4.3 Parent Governor Representatives: Cecile White, Duncan Hewson

5. All co-opted members will be:

5.1 Sent all agendas, documentation and communication relevant to the Children & Education Select Committee;

5.2 Offered a comparable level of support as provided to councillors when acting in an overview and scrutiny capacity;

5.3 Be invited to attend general overview and scrutiny training events;

5.4 Be entitled to allowances to assist with expenses in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme.

Conclusions:

6. Whilst a statutory obligation, co-opted members can bring outside expertise, experience and knowledge to inform the work of Select Committees.

Recommendations:

7. That the individuals detailed in paragraphs 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 of this report be formally co-opted onto the Children & Education Select Committee.

Next steps:

8. Once co-opted, these individuals will be full and equal members on the Children & Education Select Committee and have voting rights in relation to education issues.

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Sources/background papers: None.